

wrung from the city treasury to enrich the few rather than to care for the many. The various Boards of Health which have done their little best to help along the disgrace of San Francisco during the past years, are in the main responsible and from what we can learn, the present board is quite as bad, negatively if not positively, as any that have preceded it. We understand that the present Health Officer, a thoroughly "class A" man, has made a number of reports to the Board of Health which have been carefully pigeon-holed—and nothing done. He is practically helpless without the backing of the board, and it seems to be composed of men who illustrate that the human animal may exist without a spinal column. The acting mayor, Dr. Taylor, having had a medical education and being closely in touch with things medical, should surely understand the tremendous necessity of guarding the health of his people and we can not but believe that he will take steps to get rid of a board that is so far from being a decoration to the city and see to it that something is promptly done to improve conditions.

The Oregon State Medical Association is to be highly congratulated on having, at last, rid itself of the gentleman who has represented (?) it in the House of Delegates of the American Medical Association for

OREGON CLEANSED.

some years past. At one session this individual announced on the floor of the House that he had been called "the advance agent of the proprietary interests," and did not object to the designation. For several years past he has been persistently endeavoring to make trouble and stir up strife in the House of Delegates, though always, and we say it with great pleasure, without result. His attacks upon the Association and its Board of Trustees have been so witless as to create a feeling of intense surprise that any man would care to present himself in such a peculiarly distorted light before his fellows. And the animus of the attacks has been so obvious as to excite disgust. Like many another owner and editor of a privately owned and "published-for-profit" medical (?) journal, he doubtless sees clearly the hand-writing on the wall and reads the inscription which the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry is writing—the death warrant of the fraudulent or worthless nostrum exploited to physicians by means of the so-called "independent" medical (?) press. Most of those predatory journals make money out of the advertisements of the rankest kind of nostrums. Take any one of them and cut out the advertisements of these things and it would soon die—as it well deserves to die. The decent manufacturers and advertisers are coming to see that it is no credit to them to be placed cheek by jowl with some fake, in the pages of such journals, and they are cutting out publications of this class. Conversely, the advertiser of the fake stuffs, who can no longer get space in the clean journals, is spending a great deal of money advertising in the "independent" (independent of all consideration or regard for the profession on

which they are parasites) journals. Not only was the gentleman in question not re-elected a delegate to the American Medical Association, but he was also rejected as an alternate. Oregon, congratulations to you!

We publish this month the first report from the committee of the Board of Examiners having in charge that portion of the new law which requires the board to prosecute violations of the statute. It must be

ILLEGAL PRACTITIONERS.

understood that it is one thing to require certain things to be done and quite a different thing to do them—especially when no machinery is provided. We understand that there was practically no money available for this part of the work of the board, and without money but little can be done. Detectives must be employed to get evidence and attorneys must be hired to conduct the prosecutions; all of which necessitates the expenditure of money. The chairman of the committee, Dr. Mattison, of Pasadena, was willing, fortunately for the people of his community, to advance the funds necessary to begin the work; also fortunately, he enlisted the hearty support of the prosecuting officer of Los Angeles county. An excellent start has been made, as may be seen from the report, and there is no reason to believe that the work will in any measure be neglected. The State is large, however, and Dr. Mattison can not very well extend himself and his energies into every county in it. The Board of Examiners, we believe, is ready to do everything in its power, but the board itself is without any considerable funds to do the work and can not go into the field and hunt up illegal practitioners. If the various county societies will take this matter up with the board, through the Associate Secretary, Dr. Dudley Tait, 1879 Sutter street, San Francisco, or through Dr. F. C. E. Mattison, Stowell Building, Pasadena, undoubtedly every possible aid will be given in getting the work started in various places. When once enough convictions have been secured and enough fines paid in to create a fund, the work of ridding the state of the quacks and charlatans who live on the misfortunes of their victims will go on well and smoothly and without the necessity for calling upon outside help. But in order to get the work started and place the board in a position to carry it out, our county societies will have to lend their aid.

Again the JOURNAL calls your attention to the work and the suggestions of the Pure Food Commission of the State Society.

PURE FOOD COMMISSION.

Each month some notes from this commission appear in the pages of the JOURNAL and they should have the careful consideration of all of our members, but especially of the officers of county societies and of the pure food committees appointed by such societies. A great